



COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
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Lieutenant Governor

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Secretary

EDWARD P. KUNCE
Acting Commissioner

February 2003

Dear Citizen:

Following is a report titled *Waste Reduction Program Assessment and Analysis for Massachusetts*, recently completed for the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) by the Tellus Institute. This report assesses the feasibility of attaining the 2010 waste reduction goals established in the Commonwealth's *Beyond 2000 Solid Waste Master Plan*, identifies sectors of the wastestream DEP should target to maximize progress toward these goals, recommends a prioritized set of program strategies, and estimates the grant funds and staffing needed to get there.

This report provides valuable information and recommended strategies for achieving the state's waste reduction goals. However, it concludes that DEP would need increased funding and staffing to meet the state's waste reduction goals. Clearly, given the state's current budget crisis, the increased funding and staffing recommended in this report are not possible at this time. Also, this report focuses on how to best spend monies from the Clean Environment Fund and does not address alternative non-funding based strategies such as possible regulatory or statutory changes.

DEP and the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs will consider other ways to implement the recommendations in this report using only limited state funding. This includes creating incentives for residents and businesses to reduce waste, harnessing market forces and economic development opportunities in the waste reduction arena, and developing product stewardship approaches to managing products and reducing waste.

We look forward to continuing to work with you to reduce waste in the Commonwealth, save energy and natural resources, and create new economic opportunities and jobs through recycling efforts in Massachusetts.

Sincerely,

Edward P. Kunce
Acting Commissioner
/s/

This information is available in alternate format. Call April McCabe, ADA Coordinator at 1-617-556-1171. TDD Service - 1-800-298-2207.

DEP on the World Wide Web: <http://www.mass.gov/dep>



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